



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Bill Holden, a 56 year-old teacher from Elgin,  
3 became a die-hard Cubs fan after attending his first game at  
4 Wrigley Field in 1957; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Holden received his teaching degree from  
6 Southern Illinois University and has worked in the public  
7 school system for the last 32 years; and

8 WHEREAS, Since relocating to Arizona, Mr. Holden has been  
9 instrumental in helping and teaching diabetic children on  
10 Indian Reservations; and

11 WHEREAS, Inspired by the film "This Old Cub", which  
12 chronicles Ron Santo's lifelong battle with juvenile diabetes,  
13 Mr. Holden decided to raise money for juvenile diabetes  
14 research by walking from his home in Arizona to Wrigley Field;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Beginning on Tuesday, January 11, 2005, in Camp  
17 Verde, Arizona, Mr. Holden began his walk across America to  
18 raise \$250,000 to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research  
19 Foundation; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Holden has undertaken such tasks before, such  
21 as in 1968, when he walked 330 miles from Carbondale to Chicago  
22 to raise money for the USO, and in 1969, when he bicycled from  
23 Carbondale to Washington, D.C., to celebrate Southern Illinois  
24 University's centennial; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Holden completed his amazing journey on July  
26 1, 2005, by entering Wrigley Field from the entrance in right  
27 field and stopping on home plate; he was given the additional  
28 honor of joining with Ron Santo to throw out the first pitch of  
29 the game between the Chicago Cubs and the Washington Nationals;

1 therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
3 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
4 we congratulate Mr. Bill Holden on his accomplishment of  
5 walking 2,100 miles across the United States of America to  
6 raise \$250,000 for juvenile diabetes research; and be it  
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9 presented to Mr. Holden as an expression of our respect and  
10 esteem and with best wishes for success in all of his future  
11 endeavors.